

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2006

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Dangerously Swift High Water Leads California State Parks to Warn of Closures at Oceano Dunes SVRA to Camping and Off Road Vehicle Recreation, Other Day Use of North of the Creek Remains Available

OCEANO, CA – The only beach in California where vehicles can drive on the beach is limiting access, at least through the weekend. A creek that visitors must cross to gain access to camping and off road vehicle recreation has swelled to dangerous levels and carries debris that could damage vehicles and endanger passengers.

Continuing rainfall has swollen the Arroyo Grande Creek that park visitors must cross to get to the camping and off road use area at Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA). Park Rangers are intermittently prohibiting crossing of the creek due to dangerously swift high water accompanied by floating debris. The ocean high tide periods also back up the creek water and cause it to become deeper and more treacherous. Visitors should be prepared for long delays in entering and exiting the park.

“We are attempting to reach the people who have made plans to be here this weekend,” said District Superintendent Andrew Zilke. “We want them to know that there is no guarantee they will be able to enter in a timely manner, or enter at all.”

Those with camping reservations at Oceano Dunes SVRA for this period can get a refund by calling ReserveAmerica at 1-800-695-2269.

The creek is expected to remain at high volume as weather forecast show heavy rain and release of water from Lopez Lake have become necessary. Weather forecasts for the following week show decreased precipitation. Park officials are hoping the creek conditions improve in time for the large number of campers expected for Easter weekend. Those with reservations for next weekend should contact the park during the week at (805) 473-7220 for creek condition information.

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